

Exhibit G – Long-Term Commitment

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Phase 2 Factor 5: Regional Coordination and Long-Term Commitment

Phase 1 Long-Term Commitment. Phase 1 long-term commitments on resiliency have been fulfilled since September 17, 2014. Statewide, EEA's DOER invested \$25,829,933 (see Phase 1 Attachment B) in energy resilience, awarding 19 grants including a grant of \$2,790,099 for co-generation to Baystate Health in Springfield, which accounts for 7% of gross regional product generated in Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties supports jobs in nearly 11,000 households

(<http://www.baystatehealth.org/Baystate/Main+Nav/About+Us>). Regionally, the regional Tri-Town water supply serving Braintree, Randolph and Holbrook borrowed \$814,671 at 2% interest and received a grant of \$185,329 from EEA to reconstruct and fortify infrastructure at the Great Pond Lower Reservoir Dam, protecting the water supply of 77,500 residents and demonstrating a strong commitment toward resilience regionally. Locally, Bellingham, Canton, and Gloucester each borrowed between \$312,000 and \$853,600 from EEA's Dam and Seawall Repair or Removal Fund to reconstruct a water supply dam or remove a deteriorated dam, preventing flood danger. Gloucester's dam repair protected 60 townhouses of Gloucester Housing Authority, a water treatment plant, and 644 students at a middle school.

Lessons Learned: New England States Collaboration. In November 2013, climate leaders in state government and in the non-profit community in the six New England states attending the EPA's Climate Leaders Summit identified the need to create a formal network to ensure collaboration across states to share best practices, advocate with federal agencies, obtain funding, and provide continuity at the agencies. The Institute for Sustainable Communities facilitated the development of the New England States Climate Resilience Collaborative and MA has been participating in the collaborative since it was formally established in April 2015.

Lessons Learned: MBTA Winter Resiliency Plan. In June 2015, Governor Baker and MassDOT announced a plan for investments this summer and over the next five years in snow removal equipment and infrastructure upgrades to improve winter service reliability. The \$83.7M resiliency plan will provide relief to the riders of the MBTA's Red and Orange Lines, which in 2013 had 217,329 and 159,220 annual entries

(the number of entries in a year, some of which could be by the same person), respectively

(<http://www.mbta.com/uploadedfiles/documents/2014%20BLUEBOOK%2014th%20Edition.pdf>).

Lessons Learned: Environmental Justice. In November 2014, the Governor issued an Executive Order requiring EEA to update its Environmental Justice (EJ) Policy and create a new position and an Advisory Council. EEA released a public review draft of the EJ Policy and hosted six listening sessions throughout the state to receive comments (<http://www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/environmental-justice-policy.html>). The updated policy directs EEA “to appropriately address climate change ... by enhancing opportunities for residents to participate in ... climate change decision-making; ensuring that residents are prepared for and resilient to the effects of climate change (such as heat island effect or flooding) and ensuring that these effects are minimized during development; ensuring that existing facilities in these neighborhoods comply with state ... climate change rules and regulations; and assist with compliance with climate change regulations.” This policy benefits 137,083 people (89.6% of the population) in Springfield and 2.2M people (46.6% of the population) statewide (“2010_EJ-municipal_stats.xls” of <http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/cen2010ej.html>).

Legislative Action: Senate Bill 451. In July 2015, the MA State Senate passed *S.451 An Act providing for the establishment of a comprehensive adaptation management plan in response to climate change (CAMP)* filed by Senator Marc Pacheco. This is identical to H.752, a bill in the State House of Representatives filed by Representative Frank Smizik. This legislation would requires an adaptation management action plan; compilation of data on existing and projected sea level rise using best available science; production of a report documenting the preparedness and vulnerabilities in the Commonwealth’s emergency response, energy, transportation, communications, health, and other systems; and establishment of an interagency advisory committee supported by technical subcommittees and staff to carry out the plan. It would also establish a grant program to provide financial assistance to regional planning agencies for the development

and implementation of the plan and establish a coastal buyback program to acquire by voluntary purchase properties repeatedly damaged by severe weather.

Raising Standards: Updated MA Building Code. In June, 2015 the Board of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS) approved a draft of the 9th Edition of the State Building Code (780 CMR), which is based on the 2015 International Building Codes, with some overlaying Massachusetts-specific amendments. The 9th Edition of the State Building Code will be released this fall for public comment and builds on revisions made in 2008 that require proposed or substantially renovated buildings/structures in coastal high-hazard zones (“V Zones”) as delineated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to be elevated 2 feet above the base flood elevation (<http://www.mass.gov/eopss/consumer-prot-and-bus-lic/license-type/buildings/draft-9th-edition-of-the-building-code-approved-by-bbrs.html>). Massachusetts is proposing to adopt the 2015 Edition of the International Building Code, that requires new or substantially improved buildings in Coastal A Zones be built to the V Zone standards. The Code also would give authority to the local Conservation Commissions to set the elevation of the lowest floor in coastal dunes. The BBRS expects the new code to become effective during the first quarter of 2016. There are 192 miles of general coastline and 1,519 miles of tidal shoreline that will benefit from this change.

Raising Standards: MA Environmental Policy Act. MEPA requires state agencies to study the environmental consequences of their actions, including permitting and financial assistance and to take all feasible measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate damage to the environment by studying alternatives to the proposed project, and developing enforceable mitigation commitments. In December 2014, EEA proposed for public comment the MEPA Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Policy and Protocol under the authority of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2008 (GWSA) (Chapter 298 of the Acts of 2008) and the MEPA statute (M.G.L. c. 30, §§61-62I). The GWSA requires, “In considering and issuing permits, licenses and other administrative approvals and decisions, the respective agency, department, board, commission or authority shall also consider reasonably foreseeable climate change impacts, including additional greenhouse gas emissions, and effects, such as predicted sea level rise.”

Resilience Action Related to Plan Alignment. EEA and PVPC have begun planning and designing street-scale stormwater tree installations in Springfield, Chicopee, and Holyoke. These cities have among the highest poverty levels and lowest median income of any cities in MA and Holyoke and Springfield are ranked in the top two priority tiers for Priority Urban Forests in the 2010 *Forest Resource Strategies of Massachusetts* (page 50, <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/stewardship/forestry/massachusetts-forest-resources-strategies.pdf>). The tree installations will be designed to reduce stormwater runoff and pollutant load to combined sewer systems and act as demonstration projects to other New England mill cities. Green alleys or streets, rain barrels, and tree planting are estimated to be 3-6 times more effective in managing storm-water per \$1,000 invested than conventional methods. In Houston, Texas trees provide \$1.3 billion in stormwater benefits (based on \$0.66/ cubic foot of storage) (http://ccap.org/assets/The-Value-of-Green-Infrastructure-for-Urban-Climate-Adaptation_CCAP-Feb-2011.pdf). The project benefits 254,000 residents, in the three cities and is consistent with the Pioneer Valley Green Infrastructure Plan (<http://www.pvpc.org/sites/default/files/PVPC%20Green%20Infrastructure%20Plan%20FINAL%202002-18-14.pdf>).

Financing and Economic Resilience Action: Seaport Economic Council. In July 2015, the Baker Administration established the Seaport Economic Council to provide economic support to the state's 78 coastal municipalities and their business partners. The council expects to provide infrastructure, economic planning, and educational grants, investing \$16.5M in this fiscal year. Best available science and information regarding potential threats to coastal communities from sea level rise and extreme weather events will be used to evaluate proposed projects to ensure that the council's investments improve sustainability and resilience (<http://www.mass.gov/governor/administration/groups/seaporteconomiccouncil/programoverview/>). 2,174,863 people of the state's total population of 6,605,058 (32.93%) reside in coastal communities and could potentially benefit from investments made by this council.